



# The Boston Police Checkpoint

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## Our Mission is Community Policing

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### Roll Call

I would like to welcome each student on your return or on your first year in the Boston neighborhoods of Allston and Brighton. The Boston Police Department is committed to ensuring your safety and preserving the peace while maintaining the livability of the area for all

residents. On that note, I remind all students that the BPD, in cooperation with the Brookline Police Department, Boston University Police Department and Boston College Police Department, will strictly enforce all laws and city ordinances relating to noise disturbances, public order, and drug and alcohol law violations occurring within the City of Boston.

During the 2013 academic year, Boston Police sought criminal complaints against over 250 students for violations in Allston and Brighton. We will be continuing our party patrols and make arrests for drug law violations, underage drinking, providing alcohol to minors, and assault and battery. This year, we will be especially cognizant of enforcing the "Procurement of Alcohol to Minors Law." In addition to criminal prosecution, we will write city ordinance citations with monetary fines to student tenants for noise, drug and alcohol violations. In cooperation with Brighton District Court, this past year we had over 200 students work more than 5,000 hours in our Community Service Program, to work off their violations for the betterment of our community. We intend to continue this successful program.

In addition to our enforcement efforts, District 14 officers have a close working relationship with university administrators, including the Office of Community Affairs and the Office of the Dean of Students. All documentation and information relating to off-campus law violations or misconduct by college students will be forwarded to the above for disciplinary action.

In closing, I wish all of you a successful school year and hope you all protect your investment in your education.

Best wishes,

Captain Wayne Lanchester

### Quick List of Helpful Reminders

We depend on you to be a positive member of our Community. As such, we want to remind you of a few rules that will make you, your friends, and your neighbors safer. All requests for city services should be made online at [CityofBoston.gov](http://CityofBoston.gov) under the Online Services tab. Of course, in an emergency, call 911.

- All parties and loud music must end by 11:00 p.m.
- Persons under the age of 21 are not permitted to consume alcoholic beverages in Massachusetts.
- Drinking in a public way is prohibited.
- Bicyclists are required to obey all Rules of the Road, as per Boston/MA Rules of the Road.
- It is illegal to lock your bike to anything besides a bike rack.
- Trash day is each Thursday; make sure it gets put out.
- Always keep trash in a secure container, or you will be dealing with rats.
- If you bring an out-of-state registered vehicle to school, you need to notify us at District 14. (Forms are in the lobby.)
- Graffiti is an arrestable offense.
- Use of barbecue grills is not allowed IN or ON a building structure.
- Housing problems should be reported online to Boston Inspectional Services.

**First and Foremost: Always Call 911 For Police, Fire or Medical Emergencies.**

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## Zero Tolerance Policy

The Zero Tolerance Policy of the Boston Police is an aggressive proactive police response to complaints from the neighborhoods of rowdy and drunken behavior, vandalism, assaults, destruction of property, and loud parties. The Policy is also a proactive method of addressing the safety concerns of all the residents of the community. The Zero Tolerance Policy is directed to all citizens that engage in unlawful and criminal activities in the community.

The most common complaints deal with people drinking in public. Public drinking in Boston is a crime and anyone drinking in public will be arrested. Another complaint is loud and disruptive parties. Again, minors are fueled by alcohol and become disruptive in the neighborhoods by playing loud music and yelling and screaming. This constitutes disorderly conduct and is a crime in Massachusetts. Anyone committing disorderly conduct will be arrested.

Individuals that host these loud parties will be arrested as keepers of a disorderly house and all persons listed on the lease will be either arrested or summoned into Court. If a person becomes injured as a result of being supplied with alcohol, the person supplying the alcohol can face both criminal and civil penalties.

The Zero Tolerance Policy is implemented so all of our residents can enjoy their community without having to be subjected to assaults, vandalism and breach of the peace complaints. Arrests for all violations will be swift. You can assist the Boston Police in securing the tranquility of your neighborhood by being a good citizen and responsible neighbor. Enjoy all that the City of Boston has to offer, but remember: any and all violations of law will be strictly enforced.

### **Yard Parking: No Parking in Front Yards**

Any person who violates any section of the Boston Zoning Code, as it may be amended, through the use and occupancy of land, building or structure in a residential zoning district as defined in the Boston Zoning Code for the purpose of parking motor vehicle on any front yard, side yard or rear yard as defined in the Boston Zoning Code Article 2A shall be in violation of CBC 16-46. Each additional day shall be considered a separate violation.

City of Boston Ordinance enforcement: 16-46.4

### **Apartments, Illegal Lodging Houses**

The State Building Code prohibits a landlord from renting a unit to more than five unrelated lessees, unless the building is licensed as a lodging house. The remedy for overcrowding could be eviction of all parties. Check out the building first, before you rent.

District 14 of the Boston Police department has developed a working partnership with the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department which enforces this law.

If you choose to rent from a landlord who allows more than five unrelated individuals in a single unit, keep in mind that the results may be that you're evicted.

City of Boston Ordinance 16-46.3b

In July 2011 the "Problem Property" ordinance 16-56 was enacted. This Ordinance tracks chronic problem properties where police have responded to the location for a criminal violation more than four times, and where the acts disturb the health, safety and welfare of occupants or neighbors.

Costs of police responses can be assessed to the property owner. Property owners are encouraged to be responsible and evict tenants at their properties listed on the "Problem Property" list. This ordinance is vigorously enforced by the City of Boston.

### **For further information contact:**

City of Boston Licensing Board: Lodging Houses

617 635-4170

City of Boston Inspectional Services

617 635-5300

Boston Police, District 14 Community Service Office

617 343-4376

### **Alcohol At Parties**

If you choose to have a party which becomes loud and disruptive to your neighbors, the police may be called. Officers may arrest those individuals responsible for loud parties as a keeper of a disorderly house or for disturbing the peace.

Officers will also check for violations of the State Liquor Law when responding to loud party calls.

### **Arrests Will Be Made For The Following:**

- **Providing alcohol to a minor** – Lessees who provide alcohol where there are minors at a party
- **Sale of alcohol without a license** – Lessees who charge admission at a party where alcohol is served
- **Possession of alcohol by a minor** – Any minors possessing alcohol

Students should keep these provisions in mind to avoid future problems.

For further information, contact Police Officer Steve Law  
District 14 Community Service Office, 617 343-4376

## Neighborhood Safety Tips

Every year students and citizens have called the Department's local number to request assistance. However, the proper way to get assistance in the shortest possible time is to call 911. Calls going to the local district may result in delays that can have drastic consequences. Calls coming in on the 911 number go directly to a dispatcher who can immediately contact and dispatch a unit. Dispatchers in the Department's 24-Hour 911 Operations Center are trained professionals who can assess a situation quickly and provide the proper help with speed. If calling from a cellular phone call 617-343-4911. It is a good idea to program that number into your cellphone with the contact "AAAA."

District 14 Offers RAD classes. The Boston Police Department is pleased to offer self-defense class for the female residents of the City of Boston. The RAD program has provided many women the skills and confidence to avoid and, if necessary confront the individuals who would attempt to harm them. RAD was conceptualized as a result of the City of Boston's desire to offer more than workshops on safety and avoidance techniques. As a result, RAD is part of the many services offered by the Boston Police Department.

The Rape Aggression Defense System advocates realistically employable tactics, without the time investments, ceremonies or mystical concepts of the martial arts. It is based on carefully selected tactics with helpful guidelines for continued personal growth. It is a class you will never forget and can use for the rest of your life. Updates are offered to participants *at no charge*.

## General Strategies for Safety

### Developing Safe Habits

The Allston/Brighton Community is considered a safe community. But while in the city everyone should practice good common sense while enjoying the community. The following tips are just a few things to consider as you travel around the city.

- Avoid secluded places.
- Be aware of people around you. Make eye contact, let people know you see them and you are alert.
- Tell someone your destination and have a way to get home.
- Trust your instincts. If you feel something is wrong, do not ignore your feelings.
- Use a buddy system when you go to parties. Before you go to the party, agree with your friends when you plan to leave, or under what circumstances you will leave each other.
- Agree upon signals to give your friends that will indicate needing an "escape" or a way out if a situation becomes uncomfortable. Don't be afraid to intervene if you think your friend is in a bad situation.

- Assert yourself. If you do not like something do what you need to do to make the situation safe.

### Around Campus

- Learn the locations and numbers of the access phones on campus and where you should go in case of emergency.
- Walk with others after dark. Avoid shortcuts and wooded areas; stay on lighted walkways. Vary your route.
- Let your friends know the route you are taking and when to expect you. Call ahead.
- Notice cars that pull beside you or pass you more than once.
- Pay attention to footsteps and voices.
- If you are followed, stay in a lighted area and seek safety in a public building where there are other people. If you are on campus, find a phone.

### At Home or in Residence Halls

- Have your keys in your hand well before you get to your destination. If you feel you are being watched, get help. Go to a neighbor's door, an access phone, or look for an emergency vehicle (police, fire or ambulance).
- Close and lock the doors immediately when entering a residence hall. Always keep room doors locked, especially when you are sleeping, and do not prop open outside doors.
- Be sensible with your keys – don't leave them in an outside hiding place. Report all lost or stolen college keys as soon as possible.
- Be careful about letting acquaintances sleep in your room or home.
- Vouch for visitors to a residence hall only if you know them. Report unauthorized persons or suspicious behavior to the head resident, hall staff, or the college police department immediately.
- Know who is at the door before opening it. Ask for identification from anyone you don't know or feel uncomfortable about. This is a common ruse for B&E suspects. Call 911 when suspects are knocking on doors! If a stranger requests to use your telephone to call for help, offer to place the call for him or her rather than to invite the stranger into your home or room.
- If you live off campus, use only your first initials on your mailbox and in telephone directories.
- Use caution over the phone. Never reveal your phone number or name to a wrong number caller. Don't reveal to a caller that you are alone. Be wary of telephone surveys, especially ones that ask for personal information. If you don't know who the person is, hang up. Warn roommates not to give out personal information over the phone.
- Be alert in laundromats and laundry rooms. Try not to go alone.

## Safety Tips

- Report burned-out lights and broken locks, doors, and windows to Buildings and Grounds immediately.
- Know which neighbors you could call in an emergency.
- Have your keys ready in your hand as you approach your car. Have your doors locked at all times, and your windows up when possible. Check your back seat before you get into your car. Park in a well-lit area. Do not leave any valuables that can be observed in your car.
- Don't go to your car alone at night if you can avoid it.
- Always make sure you have enough gas, and your car is in good repair before you leave. Never pick up hitchhikers. If you suspect you are being followed, drive into a busy, well-lit establishment and call 911. If you know the location of the local police department, drive there and ask for help.

## Alcohol Related Guidelines And Laws

**Open Containers:** It shall be unlawful for a person to drink from or possess an open container of alcoholic beverages, in or upon any public way, in any park, or playground, or on the private property of another without consent of the owner.

**Penalty:** Any person in violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine and may be placed under arrest.

**Procuring alcohol for underage persons:** No person shall agree to procure for or deliver to an individual under the age of 21 any alcoholic beverage, sealed or open. The burden of ascertaining whether the recipient is at least 21 years of age is on the person delivering the beverages.

**Penalty:** Any person in violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$50. Any person convicted of violating this statute shall be punished either by a fine not exceeding \$2,000, by imprisonment for up to six months, or both.

**Procurement by Intimidation:** No person under the age of 21 shall persuade, intimidate or otherwise cause another to purchase or obtain alcoholic beverages intended for consumption.

**Penalty:** Any person convicted of violating this statute shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$300 for each conviction. A conviction for a violation of this section will be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles by the court. The registrar shall suspend for ninety days the defendant's license or right to operate a motor vehicle.

**Fake ID:** No person shall willfully misrepresent his or her age or in any way alter, deface or otherwise falsify his identification offered as proof of age with the intent of purchasing alcoholic beverages.

## Alcohol Related Guidelines And Laws

**Penalty:** Any person who violates this statute shall be punished by a fine of \$300. A conviction of a violation of this section shall be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles by the court. The registrar shall suspend the defendant's license or right to operate a motor vehicle for ninety days.

**Parental Liability:** A parent, guardian or legal custodian of a minor shall be liable for any willful act committed by said child in violation of the provisions of CBC, Ord. 16-12.28-30. (See, sections D1, D2 and D3 above).

**Penalty:** This provision shall be enforced by all police officers and shall be punishable by a fine of \$50.

**Transportation of Alcohol:** No person under the age of 21 and who is not in the company of a parent or legal guardian shall knowingly possess or transport any alcohol. This section does not apply to a person between the ages of 18 to 21 acting in the scope of his or her employment. A police officer may arrest without a warrant any person who violates this statute.

**Penalty:** Any person who violates this statute shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$50 for the first offense and not more than \$150 for each subsequent offense. A conviction for a violation of this section shall be reported to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles by the court. If the defendant was operating a motor vehicle at the time of the violation, the registrar shall suspend the defendant's license to operate a motor vehicle for not more than three months.

**Social Host Liability:** Social host liability stems from a common law theory of negligence, in circumstances in which the host has served or provided liquor to an intoxicated guest and the intoxicated guest subsequently causes harm or injury to a third party. This theory of liability proceeds from the duty of care that accompanies control of the liquor supply.

**Penalty:** Note: There is no statutory penalty for social host liability.

Please note that the Boston Police Department is notified of the sale of all Keg Beer. If you have a party or purchase a keg for a party you could be charged for procurement if officers discover underage guests at the party.





## City Of Boston General Laws And City Ordinances

**Graffiti** It shall be unlawful to paint, mark, deface or destroy the real or personal property of another, including a building, wall, fence, sign, gravestone, monument or other object, on a public way or in public view or on private property. A police officer may arrest without a warrant any person if the officer has probable cause to believe that that person has committed the offenses prohibited by this section.

**Penalty:** Any person who violates this statute shall be punished by: (1)imprisonment in a state prison for not more than 3 years,(2)imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 2 years,(3)a fine of not more than \$1500 or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater, or (4) both fine and imprisonment.

**Religious and Educational Buildings** It shall be unlawful to paint, mark, deface, or destroy religious and educational buildings or community centers, including personal property contained therein. In addition, this section imposes liability on the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated minor for any judgment rendered under the provisions of this section. Authority: G.L. 266, 127A.

**Penalty:** Any person who violates this statute shall be punished by: (1) imprisonment in a house of correction for not more than 2 1/2 years, (2) a fine of not more than \$2000 or three times the value of the property, whichever is greater, or (3) both fine and imprisonment. Note: The following city agencies are responsible for the removal of graffiti: (1) the Department of Public Works is the agency responsible for the removal of graffiti from streets and sidewalks; (2) the Property Management Department will remove graffiti from public places and from private property at the consent of its owner; and (3) Project Pride at the Inspectional Services Department removes graffiti from vacant lots and abandoned buildings.

**Littering** Littering, on foot or from a vehicle, is prohibited in the City of Boston upon any way, street, alley, or any public or private place. Authority: CBC, Ord. 16-12.8-9.

**Penalty:** Any violation of this provision is punishable by a fine of not more than \$50 for each offense.

**Garbage Collection** The owner or person in control of any premises within the City of Boston shall at all times maintain the sidewalks, alleys, street, and places adjoining the premises free of trash. No person shall deposit trash into a barrel with a diameter of more than twenty (20) inches or a height of more than twenty-eight (28) inches, nor shall any person overfill a barrel such that the trash is likely to drop or fall in the process of its collection. No person shall deposit trash for collection prior to 5:00 p.m. the night before the scheduled collection, nor after 7:00 a.m. the morning of the scheduled collection. Any large piece of furniture that will fit on the garbage truck will be collected (refrigerator doors must be removed from their hinges prior to collection.) No person shall be allowed to maintain an outdoor dumpster without a permit from the Commissioner of Public Works. Authority: CBC, Ord. 23.

**Penalty:** Any violation of this section is punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred (\$100) dollars nor more than five hundred (\$500) dollars.

**Obscene Language** It shall be unlawful for a person to accost or address another, in any street or public place, with profane or obscene language.

Authority: CBC, Ord. 16-12.27.

**Penalty:** Any violation of this provision is punishable by a fine of not more than \$50 for each offense.

**Noise Ordinances** Disturbing the Peace: It shall be unlawful for any person in a residential area within the City of Boston to disturb the peace by causing, or allowing to be made, unreasonable or excessive noise. Any person who is aggrieved by a disturbance of the peace may notify the police. In response the police shall verify the noise level, and may make an arrest or file an application for a criminal complaint. In addition, the arresting officer may seize any loud amplification device as evidence.

Authority: CBC, Ord. 16-26.6, 16-26.12; G.L. e. 272,

**Penalty:** Fines for a violation of section 16-26 are as follows (within 12 months):(1)first offense: fine of \$30, (2) Second offense: fine of \$100, (3)third offense: fine of \$200. A violation of this statute is punishable by a fine of not more than \$200, by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

**Please note, information on all non-emergency City services can be obtained on the web at [CityofBoston.gov](http://CityofBoston.gov), in the Citizen Connect section under the Online Services tab.**

## Motor Vehicle Guidelines



### Towing

**Trespass Tows** Any vehicle which is stopped, standing or parked in a prohibited location or tow zone as established by the Boston Transportation Department Rules and Regulations will be removed by a private tow company. A trespass tow includes removing cars which are illegally parked in a store parking lot and cars that are repossessed by creditors. Private tow companies must report to the Boston Police Department the time and place from which a car was removed and who authorized or requested the tow.

**Police Tows** The following categories of vehicles will be towed by private contractors under the direction of the Boston Police Department: vehicles which impede snow plowing and removal operations; vehicles which are a threat or hazard to the public safety and peace; vehicles which interfere with the operation of the Boston Fire Department; recovered stolen motor vehicles; vehicles which have been involved in an accident; and vehicles subject to removal for violations of the B.T.D. Rules and Regulations. In addition, state agencies, such as the Department of Public Works, are authorized to have vehicles removed which interfere with the performance of their duties, such as the removal of snow or the collection of garbage.

### Private Tow Company Complaint Information

Telecommunications & Energy Department regulates all tow companies in the state of Massachusetts. (617)-305-3559

This department will handle any disputes relative to a vehicle wrongfully towed in Massachusetts.

This department can explain the trespass laws for vehicles and necessary signage required for tow companies.

A Boston Police Incident Report is not necessary. The Telecommunications & Energy Department must receive all documentation relative to complaints in writing.

If your vehicle is towed in the city of Boston, tow operators are required to call the Boston Police Tow Line at (617)-343-4629, and give all information relative to the vehicle and why it's being towed. This must be done prior to the tow company removing the vehicle. The Boston Police Tow Line keeps a record of vehicles towed and assigns a tow sequence number.

To forward a complaint, call 617-343-4629 and give the operator your vehicle registration number and request the tow sequence number, reason the vehicle was towed, time the vehicle was towed and from where the vehicle was towed. In your written complaint to the Telecommunications & Energy Department you may want to include all the above information as well as receipts and pictures.

You can fax your letter to 617-723-7947 and make it to the attention of Telecommunications & Energy Department, C/O Timothy Davis or mail all pertinent information to:  
**Telecommunications & Energy Department**  
**100 Cambridge Street, Room #1203 Boston, MA 02202**

### Bicycles

Mayor Thomas Menino has made Boston a "Bike Friendly" City. While we want you to enjoy this safe "green" mode of transportation there are a few things we would like you to remember:

Take a few minutes to register your bike at [www.nationalbikeregistry.com](http://www.nationalbikeregistry.com). Thousands of stolen bikes are recovered every day but only a few are ever returned to their owners. Now powered by BoomerangIt, National Bike Registry helps authorities identify your bike and return it to you when it's found. To register ask your dealer or go online and fill out the form. It's your bike, KEEP IT!

Also be aware that the City of Boston has determined that a bike is abandoned or illegally parked for the following reasons:

- Dysfunctional Chain
- Unusable tire
- Nonfunctional brakes
- Other major damage
- Parked in one location for over 72 hours
- Obstructing pedestrian traffic and public safety
- Illegally locked to an object other than a bike rack.

If a bicycle is deemed in violation of one of these terms the bike can be removed and eventually disposed of by the city after a period of 30 days.

## Motor Vehicle Guidelines

### Parking

**Prohibitions:** No person shall allow a vehicle to be parked in any street or way in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Boston Transportation Department. A person is generally prohibited from parking in the following areas:

- within twenty feet of intersection (\$40)
- upon a sidewalk or crosswalk (\$40)
- over one foot from the curb (\$20); within twenty (20) feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station or on the opposite side of the street within seventy-five (75) feet of the driveway entrance (\$25); within ten feet of a fire hydrant (\$75)
- in front of any driveway (\$25)
- upon any roadway where the parking of a vehicle will not leave a clear and unobstructed lane at least ten (10) feet wide for passing traffic (\$40)
- on the roadway side of any parked vehicle (double parking) (\$45)
- in any street where signs prohibit parking for the purpose of facilitating snow removal, unless the vehicle is stopped for receiving or discharging passengers or packages (\$35)
- on any roadway unless the vehicle is parked facing the direction of traffic, unless angle parking is permitted (\$15)
- in any space reserved for HP or DV plate vehicles (\$120)
- in front of any curb ramp designed for use by handicapped persons (\$50), and in areas designated as bus or taxi stops or loading zones (\$55,\$30)

**Authority:** Article X, section 2

Boston Transportation Department Rules and Regulations.

**Penalties** Fines noted in parentheses above. A Penalty will be assessed if fine remains unpaid 21 one days after issuance of a notice of violation.

**Residential Parking Stickers:** Residential parking stickers shall be issued upon application and fulfillment of the following requirements:

1. a passenger vehicle bearing a valid Massachusetts registration sticker and license plate,
2. proof of residency and evidence that all outstanding parking violations have either been paid or appealed.

**Authority:** Article IV, section i SC Boston Transportation Department Rules and Regulations. The Office of the Parking Clerk is open from 8:15 a.m.–5:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and is located in Room 224 at Boston City Hall. Proof of residency may be satisfied by bringing with you one of the following items (mailed to you within the last 30 days):

- A current gas, electricity, or telephone bill bearing the name and address of the applicant;
- A current cable television bill bearing the name and address of the applicant;
- A current monthly bank statement bearing the name and address of the applicant; A current credit card bill bearing the name and address of the applicant; or
- A current mortgage bearing the name and address of the applicant.



## Motor Vehicle Guidelines

### Ticketing and Appeals

It is the duty of all police officers to take notice of any violation of any rule, regulation or ordinance regulating the parking of motor vehicles in the City of Boston and to give the offender a notice of such.

The notice will be in tag form, affixed securely to the motor vehicle, including such information as the make, color and registration number of the vehicle, the date, time and place of the violation, the name and badge number of the officer, a schedule of established fines, and instructions for the return of the tag. All persons may either mail the fine and tag to the parking clerk or a hearing may be obtained upon written request of the registered owner. Persons must choose either option within twenty-one (21) days of receiving said tag. When a person requests a hearing from the parking clerk, written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing shall be sent by first-class mail to the registered owner. The hearing is informal, and the decision is final, subject to judicial review. The hearing officer appointed by the parking clerk has authority to only adjudicate disputes as to the validity of the parking violation notices. Proceedings for review of the decision of the parking clerk shall be instituted in the Suffolk Superior Court within thirty (30) days after receipt of notice of the final decision of the clerk. The parking clerk will notify the registrar of motor vehicles of any person who fails to appear in accordance with said notice on two or more occasions. The registrar from that point on shall not renew the license to operate a motor vehicle until after notice from the parking clerk that all matters have been disposed of in accordance with the law.

### Repair of Motor Vehicles in the Public Way

No person is permitted, in or on a fire lane, sidewalk, or public way, to (1) install or remove any motor vehicle part or accessory, (2) make any repair or service a motor vehicle, (3) leave behind any vehicle part or fluid, other than water, or (4) leave behind any packaging from a motor vehicle part or fluid. However, minor repairs of equipment essential to the operation of a vehicle, not including the draining of a fluid or the removal or installation of moving parts (excluding tires,) shall not be deemed a violation of this subsection.

Authority: CBC, Ord. 16 (Passed April 29, 1996.)

**Penalty:** The penalty for a violation of this subsection shall be \$250.

### Registration of Motor Vehicles Owned by Non-Residents

Every nonresident enrolled as a student at a school or college in the Commonwealth who operates a motor vehicle registered in another state or county shall file in triplicate, with the police department in the city where the school is located, a statement which provides such information as the registration number and make of the motor vehicle, the name and address of the owner and insurance company, the legal residence of such nonresident and his residence while in school. Authority: G.L. c. 90, Sec. 3

Forms can be accessed online at <http://www.mass.gov/rmv/forms/20098.pdf>

**Penalty:** Any nonresident student who fails to comply with this statute shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars.

### Licensing and Registration

**Licenses to Operate Motor Vehicles:** Application for a license to operate a motor vehicle may be made by any person upon submission of proof of age. An operators license may be issued to persons who are at least sixteen and one-half years of age and who have successfully completed a driver's education course. Each applicant shall be required to pass an examination prescribed by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles. The registrar is empowered to enact regulations pertaining to licensing under this.

Authority: G.L. c.90, 8.





### Abandoned Motor Vehicles

The placing upon public or private land of automobiles or automobile parts for the purpose of abandonment is prohibited. It is reasonable for a police officer to conclude that a motor vehicle has been abandoned if it is found standing on a public or private way for more than seventy-two (72) hours. Police officers who discover an abandoned motor vehicle have the duty to affix a tag to the vehicle. Such tag shall include the current date, color and make of the car, and a phone number or address at which the owner may obtain information regarding the status of the abandoned motor vehicle and the hearing procedure. To report an abandoned motor vehicle, please contact District 14, Community Police Officer Gerry Ajemian at 617-343-4376. Authority: Chapter 212 of the Acts of 1988, G.L. c. 90, 22B and CBC, Ord. 16-30.

**Penalty:** The registered owner of the motor vehicle shall be fined \$250 for the first abandonment and \$500 for each subsequent abandonment. Such persons will also be liable for any costs incurred by the City of Boston in removing or disposing of the abandoned vehicle, including charges for towing, storage, processing and disposal. If the owner fails to appear at a clerk's hearing or pay the fines assessed, the registrar of motor vehicles will be notified to not renew his/her license. If a person abandons a motor vehicle on three or more occasions, his/her license shall be revoked for one year.

### Don't make it easy for a thief to steal your car

One vehicle is stolen every 20 seconds in the United States. Stolen vehicles cost victims time and money, and increase everyone's insurance premiums. They're also often used to commit other crimes. Don't become a victim of this serious crime.

### Take Steps to Help Prevent Theft From Your Vehicle

- Park in well lit and busy areas
- Park near an entrance
- Take valuables with you, or lock valuables in trunk, before you arrive at your destination
- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition
- Always roll up windows and lock the car when unattended
- Never leave valuables in plain view, even if the car is locked
- When parking in a lot or garage leave just ignition key with parking attendant

Be aware, thieves look for out-of-state license plates and know that students will be in class. Protect your vehicle and your property.

If your property or car is stolen, report it to the police immediately. Report abandoned cars to the District 14 Abandoned Auto Officer, Gerry Ajemian at 617-343-4376.

Report to 911 any suspicious persons, vehicles, or activity in your neighborhood.

A Safety Tip From Captain Wayne Lanchester  
and the District 14 Community Service Office



## Know Before You Rent

1. **Legal & Illegal Fees:** When you move into an apartment, a landlord can charge you first month's rent, last month's rent, a security deposit, a lock fee and a portion of a re-inspection fee. A landlord can't charge you any other fees such as a holding fee or pet fee. A landlord also can't charge a broker's/finder's fee, unless he/she is a licensed realtor.
2. **Roommates:** If one of your roommates moves out, you may still be responsible for paying his/her portion of the rent until you find a new roommate.
3. **Leases & Tenancies-at-Will:** If a landlord offers you a lease, read it carefully before signing it. Leases, which normally run for a year, are binding legal contracts. Tenancies-at-Will run from month to month, but offer you less security against rent increases and evictions.
4. **Renter Insurance:** You have probably invested more in personal property than you realize. Computers, stereos, TVs, clothing, jewelry and furniture would be expensive to replace in case of fire or theft. Renters insurance is a good idea and can be surprisingly affordable. Don't assume that your landlord or your parents' insurance will cover your belongings.
5. **Re-Inspection:** In most cases, a landlord is required to arrange to have your apartment inspected for compliance with State Sanitary Code soon after you move in. To check that this is being done, you can ask your landlord or call the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department.
6. **Code Violations:** You are entitled to an apartment that is in compliance with local and state sanitary and building codes. Violations should be reported to your landlord in writing. If they don't make the necessary repairs, contact the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department at (617) 635-5322, or on the web at [CityofBoston.gov](http://CityofBoston.gov), Online Services, Citizens Connect.
7. **Condition of Apartment:** Before entering into a rental agreement, check out the condition of the apartment. If you can't, have a friend do it for you. You do not want to be charged for damages that existed when you moved in. It is recommended that you take photos of the entire apartment and make two copies. Keep one set and send copy to landlord.
8. **Security Deposits & Last Months Rent:** Your landlord can legally require you to pay a security deposit and last months rent in amount equivalent to one month's rent for each. If your landlord collects them, they must, among other things, give proper receipts, pay interest on an annual basis and in case of security deposit, put the money in a separate account in a bank located in Massachusetts.
9. **Noise:** Be considerate of your neighbors. Having loud parties late at night or cranking up the music may lead to complaints and eventually to eviction.
10. **Mediation:** If you and your landlord have a dispute that you can't resolve between yourselves, you should consider mediation. Mediation is an informal process in which you and your landlord can try to reach resolution with the help of an impartial mediator. For information about the free mediation service offered by the City of Boston Rental Housing Resource Center, call 617-635-RENT.

## Off Campus Housing Information

The City of Boston's Rental Housing Resource Center (RHRC) is working in partnership with the Boston Police and local universities to improve the quality of life for students and long time residents alike. Living in an apartment in Boston can be an exciting experience, but being a tenant and a good neighbor comes with certain rights and responsibilities.

Knowing those rights and responsibilities is the best way to avoid trouble. In 1995 Mayor Menino created the Rental Housing Resource Center to provide both landlords and tenants with dispute resolution and assistance navigating the complexities of the landlord/tenant relationship.

RHRC is located in room 709 of Boston City Hall. Boston landlords and tenants who are seeking advice, information or mediation are welcome to visit the RHRC or to call (617) 635 RENT (7368) or visit them online at [www.cityofboston.gov/rentalhousing](http://www.cityofboston.gov/rentalhousing). Resources from The Rental Housing Resource Center

## Unreasonable Noise in the Neighborhood!

## Partnership Between Boston Police and Local College Administration

### Definition of Unreasonable Noise

Unreasonable or excessive noise is defined as: noise measured in excess of 50 dba between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. or in excess of 70 dba at all other hours (7:01 a.m. until 10:59 p.m.)

### Unreasonable Noise: Motor Vehicle

No person operating a motor vehicle shall sound a bell, horn, or other device, nor in any manner operate such motor vehicle as to make harsh, objectionable, or unreasonable noise.

It is unlawful for any person in the area of the city to operate a loud amplification device or similar equipment in or on a motor vehicle which is either moving or standing in a public way.

### Breach of the Peace: Loud Music

For an arrest in regards to the breaching of the peace, three conditions must exist. First a warning must be given to the perpetrator, then the breach must be ongoing (such as a refusal to turn down music) and finally the entrance to the location must be opened or unlocked. If the conditions listed above exist, then the officers may enter the home, make an arrest and seize the noise making devices.

During the school year Boston Police Officer Steve Law meets representatives from the colleges and universities to discuss complaints from the community. This partnership meets every Monday and ensures that all complaints are investigated quickly and fairly.

When violations occur they are dealt with immediately by the school first and then if necessary by the Boston Police. In the past when violators have failed to correct problems the school administration has contacted the students family, and if needed has assisted the Boston Police with filing complaints at the district court level.

All complaints and violations are recorded by the Boston Police and are also investigated by the Boston Police Department.

Officer Steve Law works diligently to protect the rights of the student and the rights of the residents within the Allston/Brighton Community.

If you have any questions on the above information feel free to contact Officer Steve Law at the number listed below. If you have a problem with unreasonable noise please call 911, and if its a recurring problem contact District 14 Community Service Office at (617) 343-4376.

### CityOfBoston.gov Online Services

There is an easy way to report a problem in your community whether it is a housing problem or an issue relating City Services. On the web, go to [CityofBoston.gov](http://CityofBoston.gov) and submit your request under the Online Services tab. You can also download the Citizens Connect app from this site onto your smartphone, tablet, or other mobile device.



## Useful Community Contact Information

**Remember that if it's a crime in progress, a Fire Emergency, or a Medical Emergency, Dial 911**

### Boston College

B.C. Police (Emergency)  
617 552 4444

B.C. Police (Non-Emergency)  
617 552 4440

B.C. Drug/Alcohol Assistance  
617 552 8639

B.C. Health Services  
617 552 3228

B.C. Lost & Found  
617 552 4440

B.C. Parking Permits and I.D.s  
617 552 3300

B.C. Safety Escort Program  
617 552 8888

B.C. Sexual Assault  
617 552 2211

### Boston University

B.U. Police (Emergency)  
617 353 2121

B.U. Police (Non-Emergency)  
617 353 2110

B.U. Mental Health Clinic  
617 353 3569

B.U. Rape Crisis Center  
617 492 7273

B.U. Security Escort  
617 353 3569

B.U. Student Counseling  
617 353 3540

B.U. Student Health Service  
617 353 3575

### Boston Community

Boston Fire Department  
617 343 3550

Boston Housing Police  
617 423 1212

### Boston Community

Boston Medical ER  
617 534 4075

Boston Water & Sewer  
617 330 9400

Brighton District Court  
617 782 6521

Code Enforcement  
617 635 4897

Comcast  
617 787 6616

Homeless Shelter Coalition  
617 635 4528

National Grid (Gas)  
617 469 2300

Mayor's Office Hotline  
617 635 4500

Mass General ER  
617 724 4100

Mass. State Police  
617 523 1212

M.B.T.A. Police  
617 222 5151

M.B.T.A. Schedules  
617 222 3200

NStar Electric  
617 262 9696

Parking, Resident Stickers  
617 635 4682

Sanitation Information  
617 635 4897

Stolen & Towed Autos  
617 343 4629

St. Elizabeth ER  
617 789 2666

Suicide Prevention Hotline  
617 247 0220

### Boston Police Department

Boston Police Department Homepage  
[www.bpdnews.com](http://www.bpdnews.com)

Boston Police Department  
Office of Police Commissioner  
617 343 4500

Boston Police  
District 14 (Non-Emergency)  
617 343 4260  
Community Service Office  
617-343-4376

Captain Wayne Lanchester  
Commander District 14  
617 343 4260

P.O. Mike Butler  
Accident Investigator D-14  
617 343 4257

P.O. Steve Law  
Liaison to Colleges and Universities  
617 343 4376

P.O. Steve Law  
Tow Liaison Officer  
617 343 4376

Sgt. Mike O'Hara  
D-14 Community Service  
617 343 4376

Sgt. Det. Kevin Waggett  
D-14 Drug Control Unit  
617 343 4986

Sgt. Det. Joseph MacDonald  
D-14 Detective's Unit  
617 343 4256

CrimeStoppers  
(To report crime 100% anonymously)  
1-800-494-TIPS, or text the word T-I-P  
to CRIME, 27463  
(messaging and data rates may apply)

For more information,  
please visit:



Or follow us on:

